

**MINUTES**  
**Underhill Conservation Commission**  
**August 13, 2018**  
**Underhill Town Hall**

Present: Karen McKnight, Daphne Tanis, Nancy McRae, Amy Golodetz, Pat Lamphere, Dan Steinbauer

Absent: Betsy Chapek, Laurie Graham, Peter Hiskes

Welcome and Opening Remarks: Karen welcomed all and introduced evening's agenda

Public Comment: Steve Webster announced the Energy Commission is now reviewing the gravel pit as a potential site for town solar. Members of the UCC expressed concerns about fox holes and other wildlife on the site and the desire not to see the solar panels from the road.

Guest: Steven Webster

Approval Minutes: July's 2018 minutes accepted as final with edits.

***Discussion:***

**Crane Brook Conservation District Land Management Plan**

**A. Japanese Knot Weed Patched – Next Working Session planned for September 15 8:30**

- a. What – Patch 32 – along New Road trail from stream crossing to Garage entrance
- b. Resources
  - i. People – UCC Members and potential volunteers, maybe Boy Scouts
  - ii. Equipment
    - 1. 2 Trucks Amy and possible Mike Fullem with dumper trailer
    - 2. Weed whackers – Amy and Dan
    - 3. Hand tools – Daphne and Karen
  - iii. Other – Ear Protection -Amy
- c. Action Items-
  - i. Karen to call Kurt Johnson to see if he can get Boy Scouts to help
  - ii. Amy to get approval from Select Board to use/pay for spray
  - iii. Amy to contact Nate to see where to put cut JKW pile

**B. CBCD Trails**

- a. Thanks to Kurt Johnson he has done a lot of cutting on CBCD trails and they built a bridge
- b. Discussion about types of signage for CBCD trails
  - i. Tin can ends painted vs old wood signs with painted arrows

- ii. Nancy and Howie to make a few of wooden signs prototypes

### **Fall Education Sessions**

- A. 'Living with Wildlife' – Forrest Hammond
- B. Daphne to call Frost with 2 possible dates 10-17 or 10-24
- C. Suggested Agenda
  - a. Dealing with Black Bears amongst us
  - b. Beavers – options – i.e., baffles, preventing flooding, etc.,
  - c. How to protect Livestock and agriculture
  - d. Rabies
    - i. Importance of Rabies Vaccinations
    - ii. How to deal with encounters
    - iii. What tracking of incidence are available to the community
  - e. Coyotes and Lynx

### **Spring Education**

Explore asking Elizabeth Spinney to do an Invasive Plants presentation in the Spring. Daphne to contact Elizabeth.

### **Emerald Ash Borer Update Dan**

Dan shared with UCC group other plans from surrounding communities. Many towns removing healthy Ash. Towns in Chittenden county have very detailed EAB plans, however ours will different because we a rural community. Dan suggest we attend Urban Forestry 's Education in Spring 2019. Next steps – Vehicle Drive-by Inventory effort.

### **Other**

Discussion of other Invasive plants - Poison Parsnip, Buckhorn, Honeysuckle.

Moore Park Plan - to be developed after results of CBCD in spring.

Town Plan – Karen hears from Carolyn Gregson. Andrew Strniste, town employee is heading the updating plan of the Town Plan. Work must be completed by 2020.

Adjournment: The meeting was officially adjourned at 8: 04 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, September 10, 2018, 6:30 p.m., Underhill Town Hall

Final document Minutes UCC meeting 8-13-18

Respectfully submitted, Daphne Tanis, 8-16-18